May 24, 2012

## **VIA ELECTRONIC FILING**

Marlene H. Dortch, Secretary Federal Communications Commission The Portals 445 12<sup>th</sup> Street, S.W. Washington, DC 20554

Re: Ex Parte Communication—WT Docket 12-4

Dear Ms. Dortch:

On behalf of Information Age Economics (IAE) this letter and attachments provide notice of an *ex parte* meeting held on May 22, 2012 in connection with WT-4. This meeting was attended by Dr. Alan Peace, President and CEO, Information Age Economics, Dr. Barry Goodstadt of Information Age Economics and Dr. Martyn Roetter of Information Age Economics. We met with Christopher Sova, Eric Ralph, Lisa Gelb, and Tracy Waldon of the Wireline Competition Bureau, Jim Bird, Joel Rabinovitz and Virginia Metallo of the Office of General Counsel, Dana Scherer of the Media Bureau, Marius Schwartz of the Office of Strategic Planning and Policy Analysis, Jim Schlichting, Susa Singer and Ted Sarafini of the Wireless Telecommunications Bureau.

During the course of the meeting we discussed a report and presentation that IAE prepared and delivered to FCC staff in advance of the meeting and are attached herewith. In the discussion, we outlined two sets of conclusions from our analysis including 1) the competitive situation in broadband as it exists and 2012 and the risks to the broadband market and 2) the impact on the broadband market should the proposals by Verizon and the four MSOs be approved by the FCC and the DOJ. In general, our concerns over the Verizon/MSO proposals are focused on degradation of competition in the broadband space due to the Commercial Agreement and Joint Operating Entity aspects of the applicants' proposal. On the basis of these conclusions, we recommend that the transactions be rejected in their entirety.

Should any additional information be required with respect to this *ex parte* please do not hesitate to contact me.

Very truly yours,

/s/ Alan Pearce

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